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Minden 'cautiously optimistic' as rain continues

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Last Friday afternoon, eight hours into a day of volunteering in the rain to help residents cope with flood damage, with no idea of when he would pack it in later that night, John McNeil pulled his truck into a spot near Anson Street where a thin wall of sandbags was being breached by the rising Gull River.

Chris Trakosas, a fellow volunteer, stepped into the puddling water alongside him, pulling a plastic tarp McNeil had brought along over the wall to help the barrier offer greater protection from potential flooding.

"Guess it's another laundry day," Trakosas joked, keeping spirits up while the men worked. That friendly and nonchalant tone worked its way through town, lightening the mood of residents, township workers and volunteers while they stacked sandbags – more than 17,000 in total – in case the Gull River reached the same levels as it did in 2017 or 2013, when states of emergency were also declared.

see COMMUNITY page 2



John McNeil, left, and Chris Trakosas, volunteers who worked to prepare for potential high waters in Minden last week, pull a plastic tarp over a thin wall of sandbags that had been breached by the rising Gull River near Anson Street. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Spreading field approved in 4-3 vote

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

During an April 25 meeting, Minden Hills councillors approved zoning and official plan amendments to allow for the operation of a sewage spreading field off of Bobcaygeon Road in a vote that was as close they come.

The approval means Carnarvon's Francis Thomas Contracting will proceed with sewage spreading on 18 acres of a 117-acre prop-

erty four kilometres north of Minden.

Last summer, after a 45-day public input period, Thomas Contracting received an environmental compliance approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks for the operation of the site. That ECA expires after two years. For a period last summer, septage was spread at the site, until the company was informed by the township it was not a permitted use under the property's zoning. It then applied for the required zoning and official plan amendments.

During a March public meeting, a number

of residents expressed concern to council about the proposal, including the potential for odour and contamination of area groundwater. Some residences are less than 300 metres away from the subject property.

Township planner Ian Clendening has given detailed explanations about why he believes the proposal represents good planning, and not only meets but exceeds many of the environmental protection criteria laid out by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

see DEVOLIN page 5

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A resident walks down Anson Street in Minden as it floods on April 26./SUE TIFFIN Staff

Community jumps in to help

from page 1

This year is the first that McNeil could really pitch in, as in previous years he was driving a transport on highways far from town when disastrous flooding affected homes, businesses and roads throughout the village of Minden. A public Facebook page he started to help drivers monitor road situations in cottage country during inclement weather helped him keep an eye on areas of need, and when Minden’s roads began to wash out with high water and the township declared a state of emergency on April 24, he was one of the first volunteers on the scene to begin filling sandbags at the community centre. That Tuesday night he posted on his cottage country road watch social media page, asking for help, and on Wednesday a small crowd joined in.

“There were 30 or 40 people with trucks and everything up here, trailers, all kinds of stuff, it was just a community full-fledged jump-in,” he said. Besides Minden residents and help from neighbouring townships within the county, McNeil said volunteers came from Fenelon Falls, Cobocok and Vankoughnet – one person even reportedly ordered sandbags to be sent to the township when they couldn’t be here in person. The Minden Food Bank set up shop in the Minden Hills Community Centre for several hours each day, offering food and hot beverages to anyone volunteering, dealing with the floodwaters in their homes, or working on the roads. Businesses – including Tim Hortons, Foodland and Home Hardware – offered coffee or supplies to help.

In total, McNeil said he estimated hundreds of people were shovelling sand into bags and distributing them to households along the flood plain last week, including Archie Stouffer students, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. Homeowners had been trying to offer money for the help, but McNeil – who in many cases was offering his cellphone number and a promise to pull together help regardless of the time of day if needed – said that was unnecessary.

“The good story is that everybody is here helping, to help each other,” he said. “That’s the best story, that’s the number one story – community pulling together, even people from out of the community. The internet travels fast so as soon as I call for help [on the public Facebook page], bang, people are here.”

A decrease in water levels on the Gull River over the past several days offered a reprieve for volunteers and homeowners who were fighting back approaching water. Water levels were at 271.3 metres above sea level as of 10 a.m. on May 1, a number that reached 271.6 last week, according to Mayor Brent Devolin. In 2017, that same measurement was just under 272 metres above sea level, and in 2013, though the measurement system wasn’t in place at that time, Devolin said the levels probably reached about 272.4. Devolin said the events of 2013 and 2017 have allowed for a “good historic baseline” of recorded reference points and pictures, so that when water levels get to a certain point, the township has a good idea of how it will impact nearby properties.

“The other thing that happened this year, from an operational point of view, that is really good is [the TSW] used

to have to wait every day to get the number from us, off the stick,” he said. “Well, they have an automated reader on it now, so they read it every hour. So if there’s a weather system above it or they do what they call logging operations ... when they’re taking the logs in and out of the dams to be more precise, then they more quickly can measure the results. I’ve been on the call with them enough years with them now, sometimes with the weather it’ll have less or more of an effect than they thought, so it’s like a fine tune dial ... so that’s been a huge improvement even from 2017.”

In a press release issued April 30 at 12:30 p.m., the township reminded residents that despite decreasing or stable water levels, more precipitation was forecast. The flood warning issued by the MNR is, at time of press, in place until May 3.

“The five-day forecast is calling for 35 to 55 mm of precipitation and may result in increased water levels in the Gull River Watershed,” read the press release. “The watershed is expected to remain stable today, followed by an increase due to the anticipated rainfall and as operations continue

see **PROPERTY** page 3



Blair Johnson gets help from his daughter Jade on April 26 at sandbagging operations underway in the Minden Curling Club parking lot.

Property owners advised to check insurance coverage

from page 2

in order to maintain capacity in the reservoir lakes above Minden.”

“...[E]ven if it's 55, if it's spread over three days, that's less problematic,” said Devolin on May 1. “If the lion's share of that comes in a couple of hours, what I call a monsoon, then obviously that's more challenging. But the main thing is, you know yesterday, people might have been tempted with the sun to start stacking up the sandbags and putting them away. I got on the radio and said, don't get in a hurry. I think we'll be through this event and if it works out how I think it is, I think by next week we'll know where we're at.”

Devolin said by the beginning of next week if the weather improves, some roads that have been closed will be reopened if the watershed returns to regular springtime levels and the state of emergency could be lifted.

“I'm cautiously optimistic,” said Devolin. “What I think we've all learned in this ... nobody's crystal ball is much good.”

Since the state of emergency was declared last week, it has been recommended

that property owners who have experienced flooding in the past make use of sandbags and consider self-evacuation of family and pets. Devolin said the orange sandbags are UV-resistant and could be stored and kept dry.

Minden Hills township recommended residents follow mindenhills.ca for updates, and directed those with questions about insurance coverage to the Insurance Bureau of Canada at ibc.ca/on/.

“Many insurance policies do not include basic coverage for damage due to overland flood or sewer backup as these services are often provided as optional or additional services,” reads a separate April 30 press release. “Residents are encouraged to contact their home insurance provider to check on the status of their home coverage and to obtain more information on these services.”

Additionally, the township encouraged residents, business owners, farmers and non-profit organizations who had experienced flooding on their properties to register with the township by calling 705-286-1260, ext. 211 or after business hours 1-888-856-3247.



Over the weekend, the Township of Minden Hills announced the closure of Dennison Road after it was washed out following heavy rain. The dead end road is located several kilometres from downtown Minden off of Horseshoe Lake Road./DARREN LUM Staff



Water levels remain high, as seen at the Minden Wild Water Preserve on Sunday, April 29.



Anson Street in Minden, as of Tuesday, April 30 was close to being completely dry as water levels stabilized. The flood warning remains in place and people are advised to remain prepared.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Public Welcome

Meetings are held at 9:00 AM in the Minden Council Chambers,
7 Milne Street.

May 9 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

May 30 - Regular Meeting of Council

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings,
visit www.mindenhills.ca

**Note: Council meetings are reduced to one (1) for the months of
July, August and December**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Please take Notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday May 9, 2019, during its Committee of the Whole Meeting, regarding proposed changes to its Fees and Charges Bylaw. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, ON.

Please visit www.mindenhills.ca to view the proposed schedules and fee changes.



The Township would like to invite you to take an Online Survey as part of our ongoing Community Improvement Plan (CIP).

The CIP provides a framework for encouraging physical improvements to private buildings and properties within the community, supporting existing businesses and economic development opportunities, and attracting more residents and visitors into the village.

We have developed several proposed funding programs as part of the CIP and want your feedback! Whether you are a full-time resident, seasonal cottager, occasional visitor, or business owner, please take a moment to visit the link below and take the survey.

Your feedback will be used in preparing the final CIP and will be shared with Council as they move forward in implementing the CIP.

Please visit this link to take the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/79MJK95>

For more information, including a link to the survey, please visit: <https://mindenhills.ca/building-by-law-planning/cip/> or contact:

Ian Clendening
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Planner, Stantec Consulting Ltd.
(519) 675-6614
stephanie.bergman@stantec.com

For alternate formats of the survey, please contact a member of the project team above.



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ARENA RENEWAL - TENDER OPPORTUNITIES

The Township of Minden Hills has retained MacDonald Brothers Construction as the Design Builder for the Arena Renewal project. Those interested in submitting a bid(s) for any of the related components of the project, please visit the MBC Tender Portal, available on the Township's website at www.mindenhills.ca/s-g-nesbitt-memorial-arena-renewal/ and fee changes.

No action on transit in 2019

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Haliburton County councillors decided last week that they will continue to monitor trends in rural transportation, and revisit the possibility of some kind of transit system for the county during their 2020 budget discussions.

Last year, the county commissioned consulting firm IBI Group for \$50,000 to complete a transportation implementation plan for the community. That plan suggested the creation of a booked, shared-ride service that would be contracted out to a private company. The firm estimated the annual cost of operating such a system would be approximately \$300,000.

During an April 24 meeting, councillors discussed what they would do on the transit issue. Council included \$50,000 in the county's 2019 budget for further work on transportation.

"However, no tasks at this point, have been assigned to that," said county planner Charley White.

Throughout conversations on transportation, councillors have reiterated concerns about cost, and the logistical challenges of operating a system for what is likely to be, at least at first, a relatively small group of users in a large community with a sparse population. It is estimated there would be approximately 3,100 rides per year, or approximately 10 per operating day.

The Haliburton Rideshare website, essentially a carpooling database that was operated by the Rural Transportation Options committee, recently came to an end, as the volunteer members of RTO, which has been making recommendations on transit in the commu-

nity for the past decade, take a step back from those activities.

"The Rideshare program had some success, it was never a big winner," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt. The site had about 200 registered users and the RTO committee has its components archived, should someone else wish to take over the operation of the website.

Moffatt wondered if maybe what had been the Rideshare website could live on the county's website, so that the people who have been using it could continue to use it.

There didn't seem to be much appetite amongst councillors to undertake the booked, shared-ride system that had been laid out in the implementation plan.

"My concern is basically, who is going to captain the ship, here?" said Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall.

"For starters, I would say there is no ship to captain, at this point," said Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and Haliburton County Warden Liz Danielsen.

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts pointed out the plan from the consulting firm had included the use of Dysart's DYMO bus, which had come as a surprise to Roberts and Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy.

"The DYMO bus was integral to it," Roberts said. She and Kennedy said last week that Dysart would continue to operate the DYMO bus, and that it would not be available for use in any kind of county system.

"To me, I've said this from the outset, a door-to-door service is the only way to go," Roberts said, suggesting that most people who require public transit would not, say, walk across town in Haliburton village to get to a central pickup location. The cost of a door-to-door pickup service would likely be

prohibitively expensive for the county.

Roberts said she thought an eventual solution to transportation would rely on technology.

"We know we called Uber, they never called us back," she said.

The ridesharing app, which allows people to essentially use their cars as cabs, has partnered with the Town of Innisfil on a model where the municipality subsidizes a portion of ride costs. County councillors had been interested in exploring a similar type of partnership, but never heard back from the company.

Roberts said she thought council should leave the \$50,000 in place for future transit work.

"I think we should park the money and wait for technology to catch up," she said.

"When you park something, it's parked," said Ryall, adding in his mind that basically meant council was unlikely to do anything on transportation this year or even in this term,

and that that money could be better spent elsewhere.

"We have failed, in some way, to connect the dots in our previous conversations," said Moffatt, adding, "I think it's important for us to keep this conversation going."

"We've come way too far on the backs of a lot of really invested people," Moffatt said.

Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell sits on the Point in Time board, the social services agency opening a new youth hub in Haliburton village.

"There is no transportation for youth, and that is something they want us to keep on the table," Schell said.

In the end, councillors agreed they would keep the \$50,000 allotted for transportation work, "continue to monitor trends in rural transit," and revisit the conversation as part of 2020 budget discussions.

Bob Lake association continues to seek solution

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Members of the Bob Lake Association made a delegation to Minden Hills councillors during their April 25 meeting, explaining a new plan for the re-establishment of a boat launch on the lake south of Minden.

In 2016, a boat launch that had been used for decades and had long been believed to be publicly owned was closed to the public

by the property owner. Since its formation in 2017, the association has been in search of a solution, which has included looking at a number of alternate sites. However, as members Laurent Joncas and Dave Roberts indicated in their presentation to council, most of those sites – seven, in all – have proved unusable for reasons including the requirement for right-of-way agreements, insufficient space for parking and turning around, topography, etc.

The solution the association is hoping to achieve would entail the construction of a boat

see **COUNCIL** page 5

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Council to mull proposals

from page 4

launch on the same property as the historically used launch, and would require the severance of approximately five acres of that 54-acre property. According to the association, the property owner was initially amenable to the idea, but then expressed a number of concerns, and the association has since been unable to make contact with the owner.

According to the association's research, property purchase, legal, surveying, material, labour and other costs would total approximately \$150,000, including nearly \$24,000 in contingency. The association has submitted some funding model proposals, including a special tax levy for Bob Lake residents and a cost-sharing model. The lake contains more than 230 properties.

"We'll have to digest this," said Mayor Brent Devolin, indicating a staff report regarding the proposal would come back to the council table.

Devolin breaks tie vote

from page 1

"This is a larger issue for the county," said Councillor Pam Sayne, as she reiterated her concerns that the ministry's process does not take into account municipal zoning bylaws, or the effects that climate change is having on water levels. Going forward, Sayne said she'd like to have a discussion around improved planning for these situations.

The ministry is supposed to be working on new regulations. "I would like to know where the Ministry of Health is with in this process," said Councillor Jean Neville, whose career was as a lab tech, and who noted the stringent requirements in place when dealing with human excrement in laboratory settings. The same substances one deals with in a lab – feces, urine, blood – are just being spread on the ground, she said. "I am not feeling good about this situation."

Neville has also noted that human feces often contains high concentrations of pharmaceuticals.

"It's not just a smell issue," she said.

"I am also conflicted on this," said Councillor Bob Carter,

who noted that the applicant had done everything they could to follow the rules, but admitted he had concerns around the thoroughness of the ministry approval process.

"They're certainly not testing for pharmaceuticals and other things that are flushed down the toilet," he said.

Mayor Brent Devolin said he believed council had done its due diligence, and that he'd seen septage facilities that were far inferior to the operation being proposed by Thomas.

"I think the bar is very high," Devolin said.

Both Devolin and Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell noted that were council to vote against the amendments, given that the company already had an ECA from the province, it was very likely the decision would be appealed, and that the township would lose that appeal.

When it came time to vote, Carter requested and was granted a 10-minute break first.

In a recorded vote, Sayne, Neville and Councillor Jennifer Hughey voted against the amendments, Carter, Schell and Councillor Ron Nesbitt voted in favour, and Devolin cast the deciding vote of approval.



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Nowhere fast

THE COUNTY of Haliburton will continue to go without any form of public transit because there is not the political will at the council table to create one. That's it. That's the reason, and that's the only reason. Period. Full stop.

I've covered Haliburton County council for more than a decade. This is the fourth county council I have watched discuss, and do nothing about, the lack of public transportation in the community. It's always the same rhetoric – too complicated, too expensive – and the same sort of helpless lamentation, that if only something could be done, as if the power to get something done is not present in the people sitting around the table. It is only present in them.

Last week, county councillors decided they would do nothing about transportation in 2019. Wait, sorry, they decided they would “continue to monitor trends in rural transit,” leave \$50,000 they budgeted for transportation work in 2019 sitting in an account, and revisit the issue during 2020 budget discussions. Which is the same as doing nothing, all the while vowing to themselves they would not let the issue die.

There was indication they would “wait and hope” that, apparently through magic, a solution would eventually present itself. Waiting and hoping is not a strategy. Waiting and hoping is not leadership. Waiting and hoping is another way to continue to kick this particular proverbial can down the

road.

That's what the previous county council did last year, when it spent \$50,000 on a transportation implementation plan from a Toronto consulting firm. That plan suggested the creation of a booked, shared ride service, laid out a potential framework and estimated costs. That plan will not be implemented, at least not this year. What it did was buy county councillors nearly 12 months of time in an election year. Waiting



CHAD INGRAM
Reporter

for the implementation plan to be presented to council made it seem like the county was actually going to be doing something about transportation.

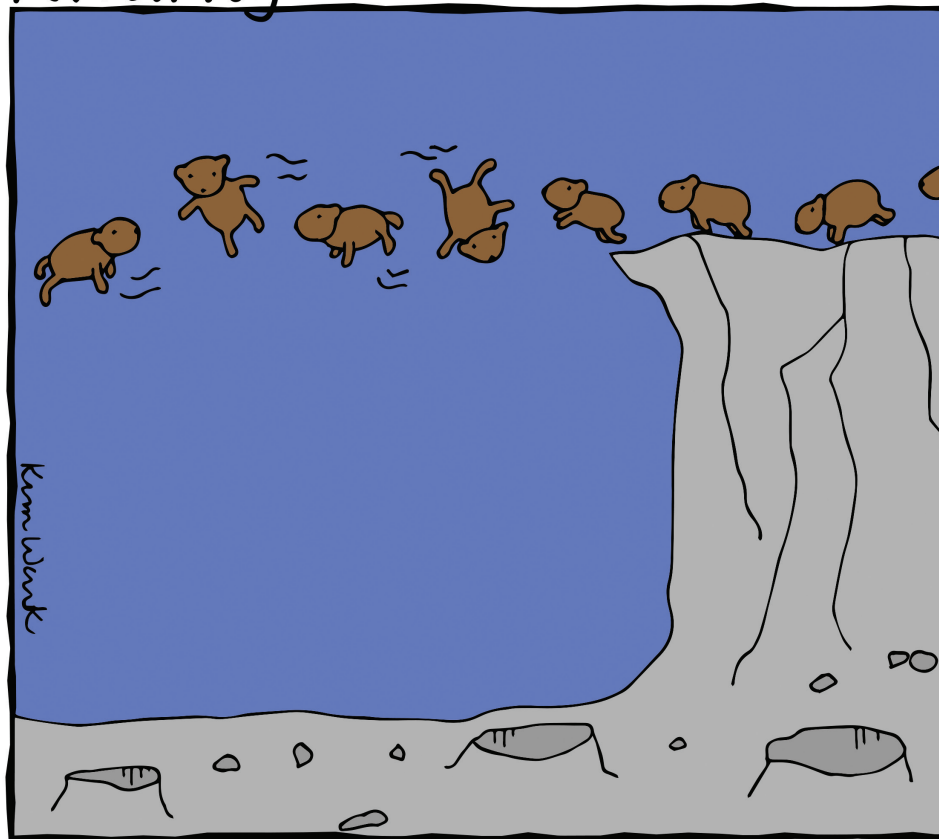
Now, council is going to revisit the issue during 2020 budget discussions, meaning more than two

years will have passed since the commissioning of the plan.

In the meantime, the educated volunteers who comprised the Rural Transportation Options committee have had enough, and are basically calling it quits after a decade of trying to get county council to do something about transit. And it's very difficult to blame them.

Developing a transit system of some kind is key to the community's ability to retain its youth, which is key to its future. Yes, it's a complicated and expensive problem. Solving it will require creative thinking and, yes, taking financial, and therefore political, risk. County councillors need to be willing to take that risk. In the meantime, we continue to get nowhere fast on the transit issue.

Kwarky



Lemmings on the Moon

Of hot dogs and hunting

THIS MORNING, since I am stuck at home working, I was texting with a buddy and we had a discussion about turkey hunting and our, thus far, lack of success.

He was a bit concerned. But I told him I am not worried since I have killed wild turkeys in both the first five minutes of the season and on the very last day of the season.

Then, using my voice activated text, I added, “Frankly, I enjoy a longer hunting season.”

Unfortunately, my phone's voice-activated text heard that as, “Frankly, I enjoy a longer hot dog,” and, without proof-reading, I sent it as such.

As you might have guessed, this confused the issue and dramatically changed the tone of the conversation.

Let me just point out there is no good or even convincing way to sort out this sort of predicament. I spent the next 15 minutes blundering through an explanation of what happened. Worse still, I'm not sure my pal bought it.

That's unfortunate, because I don't want him to get the wrong idea about me. By that, I mean I don't want him to think I prefer giant frankfurters over hamburgers. For that is not anywhere close to the truth and the next time we get together for a barbecue, I don't want us to have an awkward moment when he hands me a foot-long hot dog when I really would prefer a cheese burger.

Friendships have ended over less.

I know this was a small thing but it also makes you wonder how many texting mistakes like this got through that you did not even notice and never had the chance to explain.

How many other hunting buddies think

you like longer hot dogs?

This also makes me suspect that an anti-hunter programs these voice-activated messages. Either that or Oscar Meyer has an inside person doing the job. There's no other way to explain it.

Clearly, there is a huge difference between the phrases hunting season and hot dog and the two should never be interchanged. They are not even close in pronunciation. No one in the history of the world has ever mistaken the phrase, “I'll take mustard and relish on my hot dog” for “I'll take mustard and relish on my hunting season.”

Yet, somehow, the program that runs my voice-activated text messaging got it very wrong.

Need more proof that this is part of some sort of nefarious plot? I did a little experiment and deliberately said “bunting season” instead of “hunting season” and the voice-activated system repeated, “I want a longer bunting season” which isn't even a thing. Buntings are a

song bird and that means they are protected. So how come it gets that right, huh?

I was wondering if it worked the other way. So I sent a voice-activated text to Jenn that said, and I quote, “I enjoy a longer hot dog.” I was hoping it would change to “I enjoy a longer hunting season.”

Of course it did not. So now we're having jumbo dogs one day for dinner.

Don't get me wrong. Longer hot dogs have their place. They are great from a sidewalk vendor or at a ball game. They just should never be mentioned in text messages to hunting buddies.

So, for all those I have texted before, I like longer hunting seasons. No matter what previous text messages might have said.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

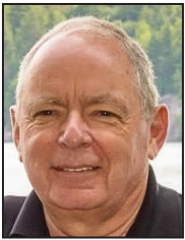
Fish to our rescue?

WITH LAKES opening, winter-weary minds turn to fish. A fish netted in the open water floating your boat is genuine proof that spring is here.

Fish, however, provide us with benefits beyond the simple joys of rod and reel. They help maintain biosphere balance, provide vital protein for millions of humans, and even give comfort to folks with home aquariums.

Now there is news that fish might hold the key to saving millions of lives. Some scientists believe that fish slime has antiseptic powers that might be used to develop new, much needed antibiotics.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that antibiotic resistance in microbes such as bacteria is growing to dangerously high levels. More and more infections, such as pneumonia, blood poisoning, food poisoning and gonorrhea, are becoming harder to treat as antibiotics become less effective.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

WHO says that antibiotics are becoming less effective because of overuse and misuse.

For instance, a U.S. study found that 23.2 per cent of antibiotic prescription fills in 2016 were "inappropriate" use of those medications. The most common conditions for which those antibiotics were prescribed were coughs, colds and chest infections. Antibiotics kill bacteria but are not effective against viruses that cause coughs and colds.

WHO has started a campaign to prevent and better control drug resistance by educating and advising individuals, health care professionals and policy makers, as well as investing in research to find new drugs and vaccines.

"Without urgent action, we are heading for a post-antibiotic era, in which common infections and minor injuries can once again kill," the health organization says.

AMR, the acronym for antimicrobial resistance, now causes 700,000 world deaths a year, WHO reports. Some researchers believe that without urgent action now, drug resistant infections could kill 10 million people a year by 2050. That is more than the number of people around the world who die annually of cancer.

New antibiotics that infectious germs are not familiar with need to be developed. Most current antibiotics were developed from microbes that live in soil. Now the search has moved to other environments. That's where the fish come in.

Fish produce a slimy mucus on their skin for a variety of reasons, the most important being protection against parasites, harmful bacteria and fungi. Microorganisms in the mucus have chemical mixtures that some scientists believe might be useful in developing new antibiotics.

Studies so far have found that certain chemical mixtures from fish slime have been found to tackle some staph infections, some E coli and even some colon cancer cells.

There's a long way to go before we know whether fish slime can help develop new drugs needed to fight germs that have become resistant to the current ones. However, there is hope and considerable excitement about research work being done with fish slime.

Meanwhile, with the spring fishing season here we fishers need to remind ourselves that whether or not fish slime can produce beneficial drugs for us, it is still important to individual fish. We need to be careful how we handle fish in catch-and-release situations.

Slime is a protective barrier critical to good health of a fish. It keeps out tiny bacteria and keeps in essential fluids and electrolytes. A break in the slime coat is like a cut on human skin. Losing a swath of slime is like peeling off a large piece of skin from a human body.

It is difficult to land a fish without disturbing its slime, but there are ways to minimize slime damage.

Those inexpensive knotted, hard nylon nets are like running a rasp across fish skin. Coated nylon nets without knots are less damaging. Even better are rubber nets.

There also are fish grips for pulling in a fish by the lower lip and avoiding touching its body. The key to using them is to keep the fish horizontal, and not vertical, to avoid stress on its body.

Also, if a fish is laid on the boat floor for hook removal, keep it well wetted. If the hook cannot be removed quickly and easily, cut the line and leave the hook in when you release the fish. Steel hooks rust and eventually fall out, which leads to another reminder: use regular steel hooks, not stainless steel which does not rust.

letters to the editor

MPP should have met with protesters

To the Editor,

Laurie Scott has really outdone herself this time.

In a rare visit to this part of her riding, our MPP sank to a new low by sneaking in the back door to a Haliburton restaurant in order to avoid a peaceful protest out front.

She snuck in the back door to avoid constituents with concerns. Let that sink in.

Inside the restaurant she met with members of the Chamber of Commerce. To this audience, she said, "We want to hear from all of you."

What she meant was that she wants to hear from her supporters.

She doesn't want to hear from those with questions. She doesn't want to have to answer for her government's slash and burn tactics.

Sneaking in the back door is proof of this. She should be ashamed of this display of cowardice. She should be ashamed of how poorly she is performing her job as our representative.

Russ Duhaime
Minden Hills

The healing power of massage therapy

IF YOU massage my back I'll massage yours. I know that's not how the saying goes, but it works doesn't it? Just the thought of a massage relaxes my shoulders. The definition of "massage" from the Merriam-Webster dictionary is the "manipulation of tissues (as by rubbing, kneading, or tapping) with the hand or an instrument for relaxation or therapeutic purposes."

The practice of massage has been around for thousands of years in various forms.

Today anyone wishing to be a Registered Massage Therapist (RMT) in Ontario must take a college program and then register with the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario. The services provided by RMTs are covered by many health insurance programs offered by employers. If this is offered at your workplace it is a great benefit to use.

There are various types of massage such as:

- Swedish massage: This is a gentle form of massage that leaves you feeling relaxed and energized.

- Deep massage: This gets to the deeper layers of muscle and connective tissue to help heal muscle damage caused by injuries.

- Sports massage: Similar to the Swedish massage style it is geared to specific activities to help prevent or treat injuries.

- Trigger Point massage: If this one sounds painful it's because it is or it can be. It targets tight muscle fibres in order to loosen them up.

Beyond feeling good (in most cases) mas-

sage facilitates circulation. When pressure is applied blood moves away from that area of the body. When the pressure is released blood moves back in. Good circulation is essential to both the healing process and to the staying healthy process. The pressure and release process flushes lactic acid from the muscle and it improves the circulation of the lymph fluid that carries away metabolic waste from muscles and internal organics. Overall improved body function is the result.

In addition to accelerating the healing of injuries studies are showing that massage is helpful for anxiety, digestive disorders, fibromyalgia, headaches and stress related insomnia.

If going for a massage is not your thing self-massage can be a benefit. Try it on your head or your feet using your hands.

Take your time. Find spots that

are tight and gently massage them out a bit. For those hard-to-reach places, foam rollers or lacrosse balls are great for glutes, hamstrings, quadriceps, calf muscles and the infamous IT Band that can cause so much pain when it gets too tight.

Massage is all about keeping the body moving well. If it's currently not part of your maintenance plan now would be a good time to add it.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness

Book of the Month – May



The Return of Kid Cooper by Brad Smith

Old-school cowboy Nate Cooper is being released after serving 30 years of a wrongful life sentence in prison for murder. Though innocent, Nate seems to do all the wrong things for the right reasons. He's barely taken up residence in his Northern Montana hometown once again before he's already ruffling feathers. The turn of the century has changed things—horses giving way to motorcars, his girlfriend marrying his best friend, and his nemesis running for governor—and in Nate's eyes, none of it's good. Worst of all, the Blackfoot Indians (whom Nate went to prison defending) are still being betrayed. Nate's old west is being tamed, but sometimes with

progress comes loss; no matter how high a price Nate is willing to pay.

This descriptive 1910s western is one of this year's Evergreen nominees, and is available at the Haliburton County Public Library.

Implications of health unit changes unclear

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

It is yet unclear what the implications of the provincial government's consolidation of health units in Ontario might mean for the Kawartha Haliburton Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

As part of the Ford government's 2019 budget, it was revealed that the province intends to consolidate 35 public health units in Ontario into 10 regional agencies, a move the government says is expected to save approximately \$200 million by 2022.

During an April 24 county council meeting, councillors received correspondence from the Association of Ontario Public Health Agencies.

"Unlike previous recent budgets, the 2019 Ontario budget contains a section devoted specifically to modernizing Ontario's public health units, so the traditional chapter-by-chapter summary of other items of interest to [our] members will be delayed as our immediate focus will need to be on the significant changes that are being proposed for Ontario's public health system," the correspondence from association executive director Loretta Ryan reads. "It appears that the government intends to create efficiencies through streamlining back-office functions, adjusting provincial-municipal cost-sharing, and reducing the total number of health units and boards of health from 35 to 10 in a new regional model. As details about how they will do this are scarce, verbatim excerpts from the two areas that are directly relevant are reproduced here."

The correspondence goes on to quote from the provincial budget document: "Ontario currently has 35 public health units across the province delivering programs and services, including monitoring and population health assessments, emergency management and the prevention of injuries. Funding for public health is shared between the province and the municipalities. However, the current structure of Ontario's public health units does not allow for consistent service delivery, could be better coordinated with the broader system and better aligned with current government priorities. This is why Ontario's Government for the People is modernizing the way public health units are organized, allowing for a focus on Ontario's residents, broader municipal engagement, more effective service delivery, better alignment with the health care system and more effective staff recruitment and retention to improve public health promotion and prevention."

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, who sits on the local health unit board, told her county council colleagues she'd let them know when she had information to share.

"We just don't know," Roberts said. "We don't know what that means, and how it's going to affect the county."

Land ambulance costs will climb, CAO says

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Haliburton County will certainly be paying more for the operation of ambulances as a result of the provincial government's plan to consolidate ambulance services, the county's chief administrative officer says.

As part of the Ford government's budget tabled in mid-April, the province revealed it has plans to merge more than 50 land ambulance services throughout Ontario into 10 services. It is not yet clear what those consolidations might look like.

During an April 24 Haliburton County council meeting, chief administrative officer Mike Rutter told councillors that the mergers would mean lessened local control and increased

costs.

"Depending on who we're lumped with . . . one of the bad things is we'll just get a bill," Rutter said, adding there would be reduced control over where ambulances were stationed, etc.

Currently, the county also has relatively low ambulance costs. Land ambulances are funded 50 per cent by the province, and 50 per cent by municipalities. The annual, per household cost of the ambulance service in Haliburton County is \$238 per household, which is much lower than similar communities.

A report from the county's auditor shows the per household cost for ambulances in Hastings is \$748, and \$953 in Frontenac County.

"Our costs for land ambulance is going to go up substantially," Rutter told councillors.



Getting groovy

About 100 people attended Canoe FM's Psychedelica 60s and 70s Dinner and Dance fundraising event on Saturday, April 27 at the Haliburton Legion. The event featured a silent "country" auction of gently used items donated by station members, their family and friends, beef on beef on a bun, salad and dessert. It helped to raise \$2,600 for the radio station. The event, which also included 45 gift bags, was capped off with dancing to the music of the 1960s and 1970s. /DARREN LUM Staff



Above, Haliburton couple Cara Oleksiuk and husband Rick came in period-correct attire.

Left, DJ Ron Murphy shows off his blast from the past ensemble.



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Patrons lose access to inter-library loans

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

Katina Aleksander is a mom of three and frequently found at the library.

"We've always loved reading for the sheer pleasure of it," said Aleksander, whose son in particular is a bookworm who she said devours books.

Besides enjoying the library for pleasure, Aleksander is one of many local homeschooling parents who relies on the library for the books they require for their curriculum. In Aleksander's case, her family's curriculum is heavily literature-based, which means they typically have upwards of 50 books – both fiction and non-fiction – out at any given time.

"It would be financially impossible to do what we do without library services," she told the *Times*.

On April 18, Haliburton County Public Library staff learned of a 50 per cent reduction in funding to the Southern Ontario Library Service by the provincial government, according to library CEO Bessie Sullivan, who addressed Haliburton County councillors with the issue during an April 24 council meeting.

As a result of that loss in funding, she said two services have been cut: a provincial courier system in which 24 drivers moved more than 710,000 books to 153 libraries throughout the province including HCPL at reduced shipping rates, and the inter-library loan sys-

tem enabling libraries to share books with each other. That service – which Aleksander said opened up many more options for her and her family – abruptly ended.

"A lot of the required reading for our curriculum is no longer attainable," said Aleksander. "We will have to make some changes and look to get some of our reading needs met through other sources when necessary."

The Minden-based mom noted the sharing service was important to those living in a rural community who don't have the same sizeable collection of books as elsewhere.

"Everyone will feel the impact of these changes," she said.

When asked about her thoughts on her government's cuts to the Southern Ontario Library Service, Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, said via email:

"In today's economic climate, the government must look for efficiencies and ways to make sure we protect what matters most in our province. One area where efficiencies could be found is the running of an inter-library loan and delivery program. While the concept is admirable, couriating books on demand by vans between different library boards all across Southern Ontario is actually slow, inefficient, environmentally unfriendly, and expensive, especially now that digital resources are available." Scott said the government recognizes the importance of libraries to rural communities.

"Our government is committed to maintaining base funding for Ontario's libraries," she wrote. "In 2018/19, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport provided over \$25 million in funding to Ontario libraries and will continue that funding in 2019/20."

When asked about her message to Haliburton County library patrons who are affected by the inter-library loan service ending as a result of the SOLS cuts, Scott wrote: "We recognize that libraries are important to local and rural communities, and they provide valuable opportunities to learn and share in Ontario's diverse culture and should be protected. My colleagues at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport are

looking forward to meeting with SOLS and Ontario Library Service - North in the coming weeks to discuss potential ways to move forward and ensure that core services and programs are not interrupted. I want to ensure library patrons in HKLB that they will continue to have access to the vast selection of materials that libraries offer."

For now, Aleksander – who said she prefers having an actual book in her hand and that she doesn't tend to use digital resources, which still have a cost related to their use – said her family will "figure it out the best we can."

"It's sad," she said. "It's all of our kids' futures, their educations that will be hurt."

Book encourages kids to save the bees

Join Marie Gage, author, and Audrey Ramsay, illustrator, as they launch their latest book on May 18, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Abbey Gardens on the porch of the Food Hub. The book is titled "Oliver and the Bee."

Oliver, a boy who hates bugs and bees, meets Revilo, a boy from the planet Zuplex, in his grandparents' apple orchard. Revilo takes Oliver on a magical tour teaching him about the importance of bees to our food chain and empowering him to take action to save the bees.

Ron Lofthouse, beekeeper of 50 years, says, "This is an exceptional book that accurately depicts the importance of bees to our natural world with a story that is sure to ap-

peal to children. What a wonderful learning resource!"

Ron will be speaking at the launch at 10:15 a.m. providing information about bees and beekeeping. This will be followed by an author talk and the first public reading of the book by Marie Gage. Books will be available for sale and can be autographed by the author and illustrator if you choose.

The event is being held in conjunction with the pick up of shoreline kits, one of which is a pollinator kit. Planting native, bee-attracting species, that are not treated with harmful chemicals, is a good strategy to protect the bees. Kits need to be ordered in advance.

Submitted

Provincial cuts affect library operations

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

A 50 per cent reduction in funding to the Southern Ontario Library Service by the provincial government will significantly impact the Haliburton County Public Library.

On April 18, library staff received news of the funding cuts.

"We received word that two services have been cut, to us," library CEO Bessie Sullivan told Haliburton County councillors during an April 24 council meeting. "Those two services are, one, they run a provincial courier system that goes to every library in the province, and two, they run a provincial inter-library loan system, which was actually designed to make access to information equal throughout the province."

The inter-library loan system allowed the Haliburton County Public Library, which has a relatively small collection, to supply patrons with materials from outside of the county. That service ceased immediately, and any orders that had been placed for materials will not be filled.

"You could get access to every collection in the province," Sullivan said. "That is no longer. So that's huge in terms of access to information, equality of access ... yet again, rural areas having services cut. So that concerns us ... It doesn't cost us, because it's not our program, but it costs our population."

As for the courier service, "that's how we got our new books," Sullivan said, explaining that about 80 items per week, "so three fairly large boxes," were delivered. "That cost of shipping had been hugely supplemented by

the Southern Ontario Library Service. That is no longer. So we are about to receive a bill ... which, we have no idea what it will be, but we will now start to be charged ... for receiving new items."

"So, at the same time that people can no longer get access to collections all over the province, we are now going to have to pay to ship anything new to us," Sullivan said. "So, it's a problem."

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and Haliburton County Warden Liz Danielsen wondered if there was some way to figure out approximately what those new, additional costs would amount to.

Sullivan said there were some formulas library staff could plug numbers into, "but we're just guessing on all the numbers, we don't know what the boxes weigh ... a box of DVDs does not weigh the same thing as a box of hardcovers, so it's just really hard for us to gauge."

As soon as the library receives its bill, Sullivan said, those new costs would become clear.

"So then, it's probably a library board discussion, then, what's your intention as the library CEO to address this?" asked Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt.

Sullivan said there would have to be major conversation at the board about what the changes will look like.

"There has to be, because we've got to find the money," she said. a

"So there is going to be a bigger-picture conversation coming about, about what our library looks like for our people," Moffatt said.

Sullivan said library CEOs have been told that core library funding from the province will not be cut.

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Boshkung Brewing
requests bylaw change

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Boshkung Brewing Co. is looking to the Township of Minden Hills to change a bylaw regulating food trucks in the municipality.

Terri Mathews, owner of Boshkung Brewing and Rhubarb restaurant in Carnarvon, visited councillors during their April 25 meeting. Boshkung Brewing is headed into its third summer season operating Boshkung Social, which is located in the former Beer Store along Minden's Water Street. As Mathews explained, there is not room for a kitchen in the building. Last year, a tent was set up on the property for the

preparation of hot food. Depending on the weather, this situation is not always ideal, Mathews said, explaining the business was looking to have a food truck or trailer stationed in the parking lot for the summer months, where staff could prepare food.

As Mathews indicated, Minden Hills's current bylaw requires getting permission from any businesses within 1,000 feet for the operation of a food truck, a stipulation she called "out of whack."

"It's a 17-year-old bylaw," said Mayor Brent Devolin, first elected in 2014.

"I thought it was a typo," Mathews said.

"No, it's not," said Devolin, who added he was unaware what the rationale behind the stipulation had been. A staff report will come back to the council table.



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Emily Shortreed
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Emily received her LLB with Honours from the University of Leicester Law School (England) and has returned to live in her hometown of Dorset. She will be practising primarily in the areas of Real Estate, Family Law, Wills and Estates.

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Countless Thanks

Hosting COSSA inspires next generation

The Red Hawks mixed doubles badminton team of Natalya Gimon and Denver Allore held their own, playing well in front of friends, peers and family on Thursday, April 18 at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Despite not advancing to the all-provincials, the pair provided home fans something to cheer for and junior badminton players something to aspire toward.

Coach Jason Morissette provided insight on the pair's performance in the tournament, which featured competitors from more than 20 high schools.

"They had a very solid season and developed their skills through hard work every week. They went into the tournament as a fourth seed and [in their first match] they played the first seed from North Hastings High School of Bancroft. Our team took NHHS to three games and played really well under pressure," he wrote in an email. "This was Natalya Gimon's first year ever playing mixed doubles and she had an amazing learning curve and drive to get better all season. She had a great COSSA tournament and Denver Allore, her partner, brought his four years of mixed doubles experience to provide strategy and focus to their game."

"Match two in the day they played Crestwood Secondary School and again we did quite well [against] the higher [level of] competition. Crestwood is a very solid team that practices and plays on a year round club basis. For our team to stay right with them

in any match shows that Denver and Natalya have a great skill set and athletic drive in the sport," he wrote.

"Overall the tournament was a great success with over 20 high schools from COSSA attending and displaying super badminton. It was really ideal for our junior badminton players to see where things can go in the future in the sport if they practice well and have a goal to make it to OFSAA some day," he wrote.

Junior Red Hawks wrap up season

Kawartha championships were hosted by Haliburton on Thursday, April 18.

The juniors won the Kawartha team championship and were led by the boys doubles team of Tyson Clements and Alex Little, who finished first. Grade 9s Ava Smith and Emma Tidey finished second.

Adding to the team total with podium finishes included the mixed doubles team Megan Klose and Tyler Martin, third, and girls doubles team Erin Chumbley and Josie Graham, third.

A week later the Hawks competed at COSSA on April 18. Coach Bob Schmidt wrote in an email "the teams played very well [but there was] just some tough competition." Smith and Tidey finished third. Clements and Little finished third while Klose and Martin also finished third. Graham and Chumbley finished fifth.



Red Hawks mixed doubles player Denver Allore drops down to pick up a low shot from the North Hastings High School doubles team during the Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics championship on Wednesday, April 24 at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. Allore and his partner Natalya Gimon lost their opening match 1-2 (15-21, 23-21 and 8-21) to start the tournament. The Hawks team entered the tournament as a fourth seed./DARREN LUM Staff

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Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 18



Red Hawks mixed doubles player Natalya Gimon gets low to pick up a drop shot against a doubles team from North Hastings High School.



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The Canadian Blues Legends presents Chris Antonik

by **GEORGE FARRELL**
Special to the Times

The Canadian Blues Legends series at the Dominion Hotel is back, and the upcoming show will feature talented Chris Antonik, who is a self-taught guitarist and singer/songwriter. Antonik, like many a blues man before him followed the well-worn path backwards from the classic rock and grunge of his youth, to arrive at the blues, as told in musical stories by such greats as the Allman Brothers, Buddy Guy and Muddy Waters.

As well as the storytelling aspects of the blues Antonik also started to listen to the guitar “voices” from the likes of Eric Clapton, Freddy King and Muddy Waters. But it wasn’t until he was 35 that the now 43-year-old Antonik cut his first album. Downbeat Magazine said of that self-titled 2010 effort: “Antonik’s guitar cranks energy in a conscientious, unrushed and emotionally convincing manner that contributes volumes to the immediacy of his tunes.” Antonik was nominated for Best New Artist in 2011 at Canada’s Maple Blues Awards after the release of that debut album.

“

These songs on my latest album are of my real life experiences.

— ANTONIK

”

Critical acclaim also followed for his next album, 2013’s *Better for You*. Guest artists included two-time Grammy award-winner Mike Mattison of the Derek Trucks and the Tedeschi-Trucks Bands, Shakura S’Aida, and Steve Marriner from MonkeyJunk. “Five Stars ... Antonik is a cross between BB King and Eric Clapton,” said Gonzo Online.ca. “It’s one of the finest releases from the Great White North in many a year,” said Oregon’s Cascade Blues Association.

High praise indeed. But it wasn’t until his latest release, 2017’s *Monarch*, that Antonik’s singing, song writing and guitar playing really came together in a big way. *Monarch* was nominated for Recording of the Year (and Chris as producer) at the 2018 Maple Blues Awards. Chris was also nominated for Songwriter of the Year. “Antonik has poured his heart and soul into this work and his fine vocals, masterful guitar playing and superb band have produced an excellent album.” So said Blues Matters UK.

“These songs on my latest album are of my real life experiences,” says the single-parent father of two young boys. “But what the people in Minden will get will be a positive, uplifting blues show,” Antonik said.

Minden is the first stop of an 18-gig North American summer tour, and for his show at the Dominion Antonik will be accompanied by bassist Guenther Kapelle, keyboard player Alan Zemaitis, and drummer Riley O’Connor. “They’re all fantastic musicians,” Antonik said. “I’m a soul player who plays by ear, but these guys are all trained. They help me be a better musician and they’re great to travel with.”

“The music the folks at the Dominion will hear will mainly be songs from *Monarch*, as well as some covers of tunes by Freddy King, Bob Dylan and Clapton, but I don’t want to give too much away,” said Antonik. He said that the Canadian Blues Legends series has a great reputation among musicians in Canada and “we’re really looking forward to bringing our music to Minden and having some fun.”

Tickets for the May 11 Chris Antonik show can be obtained online by clicking on the “Get Tickets” icon at DominionHotelPub.ca or by pickup at the hotel, 113 Main Street, Minden. Showtime is at 8 p.m.



Photo by Dahlia Katz

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UPCOMING
**Community
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Haliburton Highlands Music Festival - Highlights Concert

When: Thursday, May 2
Where: Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
Cost: \$10
Come and hear the best performers from last week's music festival in concert. Tickets available at the door.

One-Woman Play

When: Thursday, May 2 at 7 p.m.
Where: Lakeside Church, 9 Park St., Haliburton
Sister Nancy Murray OP performs a one-woman play about Sr. Dorothy Stang SND, Missionary of Brazil
Suggested donation: \$10 at the door.
More information: Jean S. Tyler, 705-457-2214

Storytelling Gathering

When: Thursday May 2 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Where: Malcolm MacLean Radio Hall at Canoe FM
Interested in telling and/or hearing stories, or perhaps learning how to tell a story? Join us at the inaugural meeting of a storytelling group forming in Haliburton. Jim Blake and Fay Wilkinson will kick off the event with a story or two. You are invited to bring a story too if you wish. For more information call Bob at 705 457 8617

Gord Kidd and Friends: Hello, Spring

When: Saturday, May 4 from 2 to 5 p.m.
Where: Minden Legion
Gord Kidd and Friends featuring Don Stiver and his steel guitar will play their way through some of your favourite country classic songs. No cover charge.
(Light lunch available from 12 to 2 p.m., meat draw at 1 p.m.)

Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary Hats Galore Tea & Luncheon

When: Saturday May 4th
Where: Haliburton Legion
Doors Open at 12:30 p.m., Lunch served at 1 p.m.
Loonie Auction! Lots of Fun!
Tickets: \$15.00 available at Haliburton Hospital Gift Shop

Rolston String Quartet

When: Sunday, May 5 at 2:30 p.m.
Where: Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
Cost: \$30 adults, \$10 students (subscriptions also available)
Part of the Haliburton Concert Series. The Rolston String Quartet is a young, Canadian quartet that has been taking the musical world by storm, winning many prizes and performing all over the world. Tickets are available from Fred Shuttleworth (705-455-9060 or fred.ann.shuttleworth@gmail.com) or at the door. Full details at www.haliburtoncs.blogspot.com.

Haliburton Highlands Paddlers Open House

When: Sunday, May 5 at 2 p.m.
Where: Fish Hatchery, 66712 Gelert Rd., Haliburton.
Paddlers are wanted for the local dragon boat club. The club welcomes both men and women for morning and evening paddles.
For more information, call Heather Taylor at 705-286-4953.

It's Sign Up Time for the Minden Seniors' Shuffleboard Club!

When: Tuesday, May 7, 2019 9 a.m. to 10:30 am
Where: Minden Legion, Hwy 35
Sign up for the Minden Seniors' Shuffleboard Club is open to everyone. Choose a time slot and shuffle once a week for 16 weeks. A game takes about 45 minutes. There are 4 time slots on Monday mornings (singles and doubles) and 4 on Wednesday mornings (doubles only) from May 27 to Sept. 11. No experience is needed, nor do you need a partner for doubles as we pair everyone. Cost is \$20 for your first (16-week) time slot and \$15 for every additional time slot. No experience or equipment is necessary as we will teach you and sticks are provided.

HALIBURTON: No-Family Doctor Immunization Clinic

When: Wednesday, May 8,
Where: Health Unit office (191 Highland Street, Unit 301) in Haliburton.
Free immunization clinics for families without a doctor. To book an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 1507.

Fitness centre gets upgrades

DORSET NEWS

Lee Ross
burgesslt@me.com

The Dorset Recreation Centre recently got some new upgrades in the fitness centre downstairs. The new equipment includes: cable cross over with functional cross trainer, four stack multi gym station, leg press, preacher curl, dumb bells from five pounds to 75 pounds, Olympic barbells with plates, squat rack, treadmill, ping pong table/equipment, change room lockers, punching bag and chin/dip/leg raise station. From Chris Card, Parks, Recreation and Trails Department Manager: The equipment was purchased by way of a municipal tender/big process, which was awarded to Legacy Fitness Products from Aurora. \$25,000 in federal grants were received for this phase of the project and the Township of Algonquin Highlands provided \$5,000.

Chris says this was the second phase of this project, with the first phase also receiving \$25,000 in grant funding and \$5,000 from the Township of Algonquin Highlands in 2016.

The showers and change room facilities were also renovated in 2016. During the first phase the township installed rubberized sport flooring, mirrors, upgraded high efficiency lighting and water fountain. The first phase also included a number of new pieces of equipment including: elliptical, recumbent elliptical, stationary bike, recumbent bike, cardio stair stepper, instructional exercise posters, smart television and collection of instructional exercise DVDs with aerobics area, says Chris.

Chris also mentioned that the Rec Centre will be expanding their operating hours this year in time for summer, to 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. There are all kinds of recreation activities available throughout the Township of Algonquin Highlands at numerous parks and community centres. They work with three recreations committees to offer a diverse variety all year long. Memberships are available at the Dorset Recreation Centre where there is also a gym, squash court, public access computers with internet and multi-use space available for rent. Fees, information and activities calendar can be found at algonquinhighlands.ca/visitors/dorset-recreation-centre.php.

Happy birthday to Shallop Dukoff, Craig Woods and Jasmine Dukoff. For articles and submissions please send them to burgesslt@me.com.



Bowling Scores

Monday afternoon, April 15

High Average (cumulative)
Women – Chris Cote – 181
Men – Gary hunt – 204
This Week's Highs – Women
High Single – Ren Higgins – 270
High Single Hcp – Ren Higgins – 319
High Triple – Ren Higgins – 615
High Triple Hcp – Ren Higgins – 762
This Week's Highs – Men
High Single – Claude Cote – 269

High Single Hcp – Claude Cote – 287
High Triple – Claude Cote – 646
High Triple Hcp – Claude Cote – 700
Haliburton Red Wolves Bowling Scores

Day 1
Casey Heley 225, Skylar Pratt 207, Andrew Bourgeois 170, Brodie Mason 156, Kim Buie 149, Melinda Nesbitt 145
Day 2
Casey Heley 200, Skylar Pratt 197, Brodie Mason 159, Christopher Strype 154, Andrea Austin 152, Emily Boccitto 145

County to explore development charges

Haliburton County will have a study conducted, looking at the institution of development charges in the community.

As a staff report from county planner Charley White explains, "Development charges are one-time fees imposed by municipalities on land developers, home builders and institutions when they develop or build upon an area of land. The fees are intended to offset the cost of increased municipal services and infrastructure required due to population growth within the municipality resulting from new development. A development charge may be imposed across all or only part of the municipality and more than one development charge bylaw can apply to an area."

In Haliburton County, for example, the upper tier of the county could institute development charges, as well as each of its lower-tier governments. Currently, development charges do not exist within Haliburton County, or any of its four lower tiers, although they have become widespread in many Ontario municipalities.

"We are one of the few that doesn't have them, anymore," Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt said during an April 24 county council meeting.

"Before you can even move forward with them, you have to do a development charges study," White explained.

County council included \$50,000 for such a study in the 2019 budget, and council will release a request for proposals for the completion of the study. A bylaw establishing development charges must be passed within one year of the study being completed. A statutory public meeting on their establishment must also take place.

Development charge amounts vary widely depending on the size of a community. While in downtown Toronto, for example, development charges for residential development may be as much as \$100,000, in smaller communities, they are much, much less.

There are stipulations around what development charges can be used for, and municipalities earmark what those specific purposes will be.

"This is to cover growth-related costs, only," chief administrative officer Mike Rutter said, explaining the idea is to offset increased servicing costs related to a development. For example, that could be for increased water or sewer services, or a new fire hall required because of population growth, or

new parks required for more residents.

Rutter said development charges also make costs clear to developers up front. As the new Home Hardware store got under construction in Haliburton Village, for example, it was determined a new turning lane would be required, and the county and developer ended up sharing the cost for that turning lane, around which they negotiated.

"A development charge makes that certain ... they know what they've got to pay," Rutter said.

Some councillors seemed supportive. "Times have changed ... landfills cost more, ambulances cost more," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts.

Moffatt thought the county could see some resistance to the concept.

"I think the majority of people think they don't get any services for their taxes now, so I imagine this will be contentious," she said.

-Chad Ingram, Staff

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Haliburton County Snowmobile Association Annual General Meeting

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**Everyone
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Paddlers are wanted for the local dragon boat club!

The Haliburton Highlands
Paddlers will host an
Information-Open House
on Sunday May 5 at 2 p.m. at the
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The club welcomes both men
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For more information call
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*The Trillium Team Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton and Harmony Yoga
Haliburton have teamed up to offer yoga classes Wednesday mornings in the loft of
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Space is limited so please register by email to
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The successful candidate will primarily be responsible to assist the Service Manager in scheduling appointments and follow up with customers to ensure that the Service Department runs smoothly. Customer service duties include answering and directing phone calls, counter sales, water testing, and gathering information from customers to establish their needs. Other general duties could include scheduling of required vehicle maintenance, assisting with filing documents when required, general organization, maintaining cleanliness in the workplace and other duties as assigned.

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Employment Opportunity
NEW POSITION – Supervisor of Facilities and Parks

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This is a full time position, consisting of 35 hours/week, being variable shifts, including days, evenings, weekends and some Statutory holidays.

The Salary Range for this position is \$62,498 - \$73,546.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Minimum of five (5) years' relevant progressive experience in municipal facilities, parks and cemeteries.
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, Facility Management and Administration certificates through Parks Recreation Ontario, Ontario Parks Association and/or Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, specifically: Certified Ice Technician (CIT), Certified Grounds Technician (CGT), Certified Building Technician (CGT) and Cemeterian Operations and Management.
- Certification or training in Chainsaw Safety and Operation, Traffic Control, Working at Heights, Propane Safety and Handling and Smart Serve.
- Valid Standard First Aid and CPR/AED certification.
- Valid "D" Driver's Licence for the province of Ontario.
- Experience in the operation of; ice resurfer, backhoe, single axle truck and trailering equipment.
- Thorough knowledge of equipment, vehicles and materials used in Municipal facilities, parks and cemeteries and maintenance procedures.
- Good understanding of policies, procedures, by-laws, Ministry guidelines, regulations and legislation related to the operation of facilities, parks, cemeteries, equipment and maintenance.
- Good understanding and experience with Microsoft Office Software programs.
- Strong planning/time management and organizational skills.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Post-secondary education in the field of Recreation, Facilities and/or Parks, or a related discipline.
- Minimum of three (3) years' supervisory experience in a unionized environment.
- Certificates or training in Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical and HVAC, Playground Inspector, Turf Management, Horticulture, Arboriculture and WHMIS.
- Familiarity with Facility Scheduling, Radio Communications/Global Positioning System (GPS) and Cemetery software.

Prior to the final selection for this position, the candidate shall be required to provide, at their own expense, a Vulnerable Sector Check from the Ontario Provincial Police or appropriate Police Force and Driver's Abstract.

Applicants are encouraged to read the Position Description for all requirements and accountabilities, obtained in person from the Administration Office, 2nd floor, downloaded from the **Municipal Website (www.mindenhills.ca)**, calling 705-286-1260 ext. 313 or emailing sprentice@mindenhills.ca

This is an open call for applications until the position has been filled. Qualified applicants are invited to submit a letter of application together with a detailed resume of education and experience to:

Employment Opportunity
Supervisor, Facilities and Parks Employment Opportunity
Township of Minden Hills
7 Milne St, PO Box 359, Minden, ON K0M 2K0

Attention: Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services or email sprentice@mindenhills.ca

*We thank all applicants for applying, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information and supporting material is used in accordance with the **Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**. If you are contacted regarding a job opportunity or testing, please advise if you require accommodation. Information received relating to accommodation needs will be addressed confidentially. Persons with a disability preventing them from applying on-line should contact the Clerk's Department at 705-286-1260 to discuss alternative solutions.*

BIG NEWS



Township of Algonquin Highlands
Public Works Department

Employment Opportunity
Full Time Maintenance Worker

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is looking for a full-time Maintenance Worker (Stanhope Yard) with equipment and building repair experience to assist with all aspects of municipal summer and winter maintenance programs.

A detailed job description is available online at www.algonquinhighlands.ca

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Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Rd.
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
ATT: Mr. Adam Thorn
Operations Manager
Email: athorn@algonquinhighlands.ca

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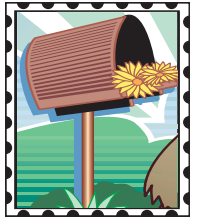
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On Thursday April 25th Daisy Downs passed away suddenly surrounded by her family and friends. Daisy will be missed by her husband Ray of 50 years, Children; Tricia (Colin) and Cheryl. Grandchildren; Tiffany (Josh), David (Michelle), Eliesha (Jon), Maxi and Tess. Great Grandchildren; Kianna, Mya and Elijah. Daisy was pre-deceased by her parents, John and Nancy Gayton and her brother John Gayton.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday May 11th at 11:00 am at St. Paul’s Anglican Church, 19 Invergordon Ave., Minden. In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to; St. Paul’s Anglican Church, Haliburton Highlands Health Services, Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Association Inc.



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VOLUME 1, NUMBER 27

Make energy from wood waste commission told

Energy created from wood waste and the sale of crown land to the public for recreational use were two of the proposals presented to the Haliburton County Economic Development Commission's third 'In Search of Development' meeting at Wilberforce, last Friday evening.

Bruce Gibbs, representing Wilberforce Veneer, told the commission that wood waste should be converted into electricity.

This procedure calls for the wood waste to be made into steam power then into electricity and the power could be utilized or sold to Ontario Hydro, said Mr. Gibbs.

Currently the government is experimenting with this idea in the Hearst area, he added.

"Wood pellets could easily be made by pulverizing the waste and the pellets that come out like dog food," said Mr. Gibbs.

He pointed out that in the future these pellets could take the place of oil in furnaces and would be highly versatile.

"Reforestation, culling and forest management should be practised...it's survival of the fittest and the forests are decreasing every year," he told the commission.

He said the forest management programs carried out by the Ministry of Natural Resources which have been cut back because of government restraints, have hardly scratched the surface.

"In 10 or 20 years, programs like this will be very important," Mr. Gibbs said. He asked the commission to use its influence to promote funding from all levels of government to help get the wood waste project off the ground.

"Private industry is ready to go ahead," he added.

Haliburton County warden and Stanhope Reeve, Jim Harrison, said he was also going to present a similar wood waste but would omit it and carry on with the rest of his presentation.

He said since most of the water front property in the county was almost exhausted, the government should make crown land available to private owners.

"Most of the land which can be developed is classed non-development because it is crown land," said the warden.

He said this would have a three-fold effect: it would stimulate the economy with the clearing of land, building roads, constructing houses; businessmen would sell products and this would result in an increased cash flow; the

development would have an everlasting effect as it would increase the assessment base thus maintaining a stable tax rate which would help offset the increased cost caused by the withdrawal of federal and provincial funds.

Strict controls would have to be administered to make sure the lakes were not overpopulated, said Warden Harrison.

Martin Hoffman, of the Flying Dutchman Carpentry in Haliburton, told the commission that the small businessman needs help but in more beneficial ways than the government is now providing.

"Where is the help from the government, the small businessman now stands alone," he said.

He said when we went to the government for assistance to set up a business one year ago, the government would not help a business investment under \$50,000. Since he only spent \$30,000 he was left out in the cold.

Jane Heppleston, from the Manpower Outreach centre in Haliburton, gave a presentation on seven viable programs that might be of assistance to businessmen wanting to start businesses.

The programs included wage assistance and tax credit programs.

Representing the Haliburton Anti-Pollution Committee Sonya Hollida-Rhodes suggested that a task force be set up by the commission to investigate all proposals, especially pulp mills and uranium mines.

"We are aware of a need for economic growth, but it must co-exist with tourism and not detract from the county's

natural beauty," added Mrs. Holliday-Rhodes.

Giving the next presentation was Bill Valentine, a member of the commission.

He said a few words on stone construction in the area as it had not been mentioned by anyone at the previous meetings.

"Stone is one of our most plentiful resources," then he added "there is enough to support three quarries in the county...and opportunities are endless."

The next proposal, given by Bob Vick, the reeve of Snowdon Township, suggested that consideration be given to a woodworking plant, pulp, pallets and a correctional institute whether it be minimum or maximum.

"Consideration should also be given to the development of the existing natural resources within our area," he added.

Patrick Daniel, NDP candidate for the Victoria-Haliburton riding, presented two proposals, one for the Mountain Lake Cottagers Association and the other one as an individual.

The Mountain Lake cottagers suggested that a list of associations should be made up so these groups could be informed of upcoming events that may involve their interests in the county.

Then wearing the other hat he suggested that all levels of government should be encouraged to help light industry get off the ground.

On the same note he said that cautions should be taken to make sure that industries don't destroy the natural beauty and tourist industry.



The Minden Scouting movement planted 3,000 red pine trees last Saturday to raise money for the club

Shotgun and rifle range in the making

Haliburton County Marksmen Club have received municipal approval for a shotgun and rifle range.

The range will be located in Anson, Hindon and Minden's gravel pit on the Bobcaygeon Road, just two miles north of Minden.

According to the club, it's a beautiful site with a natural backdrop and shots will be in a northerly direction so the sun will not hamper shooting in either the early morning or evening.

The club will be negotiating with the only homeowner in the area and that residence is one mile from the range site.

Now that the club has council's approval, steps will be taken to have the range

ready for action in about four weeks, Dr. Jeff Lodenquai, president of the club, told The Times Wednesday night.

The club is also planning to have the range approved for restricted weapon use (handguns and target pistols) by the solicitor general of Canada.

But the range will have to be slightly modified for that use.

The club had two other alternatives to the gravel pit site but it seemed the most convenient at a club meeting a week ago last Tuesday night.

The executive received a letter from George Hamilton, director of the Leslie Frost Centre, stating that a schedule could be arranged for the club

to use the centre's range if members were willing to do some maintenance on the site.

"It's very encouraging" said the president adding that one factor against the range was that it was 22 miles north of Minden.

Question was also raised to the fact as to whether the range was approved by the solicitor-general for restricted weapon use.

Although police and conservation officers use the range for handgun matches and other competitions, they are registered restricted weapon carriers and would not necessarily have to shoot on an approved site.

Another location, the continued on page 3

Co-op food is cheaper and tastes better

The Highland Food Club is trying to form a co-op to offer large quantities of goods at cheaper prices.

The group is presently ordering from the Toronto Federation of Co-ops but with more members food could be bought from other suppliers as well.

It costs \$20 a family to join the club. This money is used to cover expenses as there is no-profit to the club.

Its main objective is to provide good food at more reasonable prices than in the grocery stores.

The items included on the price list include: refined oil, unrefined oil, pasta, seeds, spices, herbs and extracts,

baking supplies, beans and bean products, beverages, cereals, granolas and pancake mixes, cheese, dairy products, flour, fruits, grains, dried legumes, shelled raw nuts, nuts in the shell, spreads and sweeteners.

The foods available are not health foods, they are healthy foods without the common additives, just plain good taste.

The next meeting date will be in the 'coming events' column in the newspapers.

If interested contact Ellen Brown, 754-2828, Wendy Perry, 286-2143, or drop into the Echoes of Yesterday in Haliburton.

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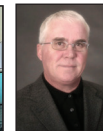
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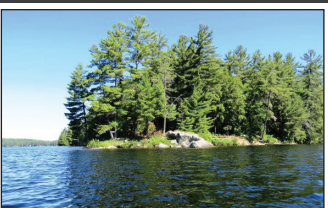
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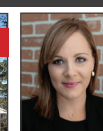
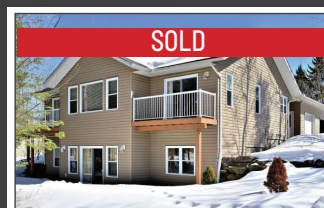
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